



2008 Activities

Plug-In To eCycling is a partnership among EPA and electronic manufacturers, retailers, and service providers to offer consumers more opportunities to donate or recycle – eCycle – their used electronics.

In 2008, Plug-In To eCycling partners collected and recycled 68 million pounds of used consumer electronics in the United States. As a result of these electronics recycling efforts, partners prevented the release of greenhouse gases equal to the annual emissions from approximately 16,800 cars.

Since Plug-In To eCycling's inception in 2003, manufacturers and retailers have expanded their programs from event-based collections to include tailored electronics reuse and recycling programs. These programs provide consumers with accessible eCycling options. The charts below show types of eCycling programs run by various companies and the types of electronics those programs accept. Some programs accept qualified brands of computers and televisions at no cost, and charge a small fee to recycle non-qualified brands. All cell phone collection programs will accept any brand of cell phones for free. To learn more about each partner's program, please visit: www.epa.gov/plugin

Plug-In To eCycling RETAILERS' Programs

Company	Store	Permanent Drop-off	Mail In	Special Collection EVENT	Online Trade-in	Haul Away
Best Buy						
Office Depot						
Staples						
Walmart / Sam's Club						

Key

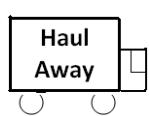
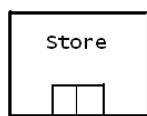
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- Mobile devices (cell phones, PDAs, & accessories)
-
- Computer products (notebooks, PCs, monitors, & CPUs)
-
- Televisions (CRTs and flat panels)



represents programs in which the partner has joined with other organizations to offer more collection locations

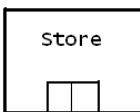
Plug-In To eCycling MANUFACTURERS' Programs

Company



Dell						
HP						
Intel						
LG Electronics						
Motorola						
NEC Display						
Nokia						
Palm						
Panasonic						
Samsung						
Sharp						
Sony						
Sony Ericsson						
Toshiba						

Plug-In To eCycling MOBILE DEVICE SERVICE PROVIDERS' Programs

Company			
AT&T			
Sprint			
T-Mobile			
Verizon Wireless			



ReCYCLE YOUR CELL PHONE It's an easy call

In 2008, Plug-In To eCycling launched its *Recycle Your Cell Phone. It's An Easy Call* campaign. Recycling cell phones reduces greenhouse gas emissions, keeps valuable material out of landfills and incinerators, and conserves natural resources. Cell phones and their accessories are made with many materials that require much energy to produce or mine, such as precious metals, copper, and engineered plastics. These materials can be reused in refurbished phones or recovered into the commodity stream to make new products.

A widespread and accessible infrastructure exists for consumers to recycle their cell phones at no cost, yet consumer awareness is low despite the many donation and recycling opportunities available. To increase consumer awareness, EPA and partners developed a media campaign on cell phone recycling that included articles, an audio podcast, and public service announcements available in both English and Spanish. EPA selected Chicago as a test market for the public service announcements, placing them in the public transit system where they are seen by thousands of commuters.



In 2008, Plug-In partners collected approximately 11 million cell phones for reuse and recycling, thus reducing the release of greenhouse gases equal to the annual emissions of more than 3,000 cars.

Raising the Bar on Electronics Recycling



Plug-In partners are raising the bar when it comes to managing unwanted electronics they collect. Since Plug-In's inception, the partners have ensured that the recyclers they use either meet or exceed the Plug-In To eCycling Guidelines for Materials Management. Now, the recently released "Responsible Recycling (R2) Practices for Use in Accredited Certification Programs for Electronic Recyclers" developed by a multi-stakeholder group convened by EPA, will become the new guide on how to run environmentally protective recycling operations. The R2 practices help electronics recyclers ensure that their material is handled safely and legally in the U.S. and foreign countries. More information about the R2 practices is available at

www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/materials/ecycling/r2practices.htm

No Need to Trash It -- Encouraging TV Recycling

After June 12, 2009, most television stations will broadcast only in digital. People who receive free over-the-air broadcasts on analog TV sets can extend the life of their TV by subscribing to a paid TV service or connecting it to a converter box.

For consumers who choose to buy a new digital TV, EPA recommends recycling of unwanted TVs and purchasing energy efficient sets with the ENERGY STAR label.

The Plug-In To eCycling program is educating people about the importance of extending the useful life of TVs, and recycling them at their end of life. Many Plug-In partners offer consumers opportunities to recycle their unwanted TVs, helping to keep TVs out of landfills and recovering reusable materials from the circuit boards, metal wiring, and leaded glass.

For more information on the Digital TV Transition and to find TV recycling opportunities near you, go to: www.epa.gov/epawaste/conserve/materials/ecycling/tv-convert.htm



To learn more about the Plug-In To eCycling Program, partners' recycling programs, and information on where to donate or recycle used electronics, visit: www.epa.gov/plugin

The Plug-In To eCycling Program is open to all qualified electronics manufacturers, retailers, and mobile service providers. Identifying partners' electronics recycling programs does not constitute EPA endorsement of the products or services.